Assessment of Classroom Learning



Classroom Assessment

- The Goals of Assessment
 - Motivation and Learning
 - Student Feedback
 - Teacher Feedback

- Norm-Referenced
 - Students are compared against one another's performance
 - There is an absence of criteria
 - Need large and diverse class

- Criterion-Referenced
 - Students are compared against some preset criterion
 - Provide information about strengths and weaknesses
 - Greater teach-test overlap tends to result in higher grades

Classroom Assessment

- Formal Assessments
- Informal Assessments
- Evaluating Achievement
 - Measurements
 - Evaluation

Elements of Traditional Testing

- What Material Should the Test Cover
 - Consulting Published Sources
 - Using Instructional Objectives
- The When and How of Testing
 - Give More Frequent, Shorter Tests
 - Consider Testing Conditions
 - Ensure Clear Directions

Ways To Measure Student Learning: Written Tests

- Selected response tests: "Objective"
 - Multiple Choice, T-F, Matching
 - Goal is to assess foundational knowledge
 - Advantages include:
 - Efficient, easy, reliable scoring
 - Disadvantages include:
 - Focuses on memorization, does not ask student to apply/use learning

Developing Objective Test Questions

- Multiple-Choice Items
- True/False Items
- Matching Items
- Fill-In-The-Blank Items
- Short Answer
- Evaluate Objective Items

Ways To Measure Student Learning: Written Tests

- Short Answer Tests
 - Student is asked to supply from memory a brief response
 - Goal is to assess foundational knowledge
 - Advantages include:
 - Efficient, easy, reliable scoring
 - Disadvantages include:
 - Lack of depth in answers, plausible but unexpected answers may be hard to score

Ways To Measure Student Learning: Written Tests

- Essay Tests
 - Goal is to assess depth of knowledge
 - Advantages include:
 - Reveal how well students can recall, organize, and communicate information.
 - Assess higher-level abilities such as analysis, synthesis and evaluation.
 - Disadvantages include:
 - Consistency in grading can be difficult
 - · Limited number of questions can be asked.

Developing Essay Tests

- When to Use Essay Tests
- Subjective
- Expectations
- Writing Essay Questions
- Grading

Ways To Measure Student Learning: Performance Tests (Authentic Assessment)

- Require students to use knowledge and/or skills in a realistic and applied way.
- Measure what students can do, rather than what they know.
- Types include:
 - Portfolios, Exhibitions, Demonstrations, and (Maybe) Direct Writing Assessments

Performance Tests: Things to Consider

- Active Responding
- Complex Problems
- Degree of realism
- Scoring Rubrics
- Teach-Test Overlap
- Reliability and Validity have not been established

Grading and Reporting

- The Impact of Grades
- General Grading Guidelines
 - Base Grades on Multiple Sources
 - Comply with School Rules
 - Only Grade when Necessary

- Consider How Much Feedback is Needed
- Explain the System Clearly
- Grades Must be Made Available

Grading Systems

- Total-Point System
- Percentage Grading System